

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 18-21 as follows.

Claims 1-17. (Cancelled).

18. (Currently Amended) A function assignment method for function keys of an operation device, comprising steps of:

displaying a first prescribed hierarchical level menu comprising a plurality of first prescribed items;

selecting by a user one of the first prescribed items;

displaying, on a same screen with the first prescribed hierarchical level menu, a second lower hierarchical level menu according to the selected first item among the prescribed items, the second lower hierarchical level menu comprising a plurality of second lower items;

selecting by the user one of the second lower items;

displaying, on the same screen with the prescribed and lower hierarchical level menu, a registration menu comprising third registration items relating to the function keys, according to selection of one of items in the lowest hierarchical level menu;

selecting by a user one of the third registration items; and

assigning a function according to a set of the selected ~~first and second~~ items in each hierarchical level menu to [[a]] the function key relating to the selected ~~third~~ registration item with one-to-one correspondence.

19. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 18, wherein the operation device is a remote controller for a television receiver and the ~~first~~ prescribed hierarchical level menu comprises image quality adjustment and sound adjustment.

20. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 19, wherein the ~~second~~ lower hierarchical level menu comprises contrast and luminance for image quality adjustment and sound volume for the sound adjustment.

21. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 18, wherein the ~~first and second~~ prescribed and lower hierarchical level menus and the registration menu are adjacently displayed stepwise according to the selection by the user, on the same screen.